

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Jan DIETRICH et al.

Title: MEANS OF APPLYING A
PRINTED IMAGE TO A TEXTILE
SUBSTRATE

Appl. No.: 09/942,045

Filing Date: 08/30/2001

Examiner: Unassigned

Art Unit: 1773



INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 CFR §1.56

Commissioner for Patents
Box PATENT APPLICATION
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Submitted herewith on Form PTO-1449 is a listing of documents known to Applicants in order to comply with Applicants' duty of disclosure pursuant to 37 CFR §1.56. A copy of each listed document is being submitted to comply with the provisions of 37 CFR §1.97 and §1.98.

The submission of any document herewith, which is not a statutory bar, is not intended as an admission that such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application or that such document is considered material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR §1.56(b). Applicants do not waive any rights to take any action which would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove as a competent reference any document which is determined to be a *prima facie* art reference against the claims of the present application.

TIMING OF THE DISCLOSURE

The listed documents are being submitted in compliance with 37 CFR §1.97(b), before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits.

RELEVANCE OF EACH DOCUMENT

The relevance of documents A2, A7 and A9 is described in the present specification.

The foregoing documents were cited by the Examiner in the Applicants' corresponding European application.

Document A5 relates to hotmelt transfer material, the process for making the material, and the use thereof.

Document A6 relates to the evaluation of the patent-qualification considered in block letters.

Document A8 relates to an imprintable image carrier material for thermal image transference.

Document A7 is a foreign counterpart to Document A3.

English translations of the foreign-language documents are not readily available. However, the absence of such translations does not relieve the PTO from its duty to consider the submitted foreign language documents (37 CFR §1.98 and MPEP §609). English abstracts to documents A5 and A7 are attached.

Applicants respectfully request that any listed document be considered by the Examiner and be made of record in the present application and that an initialed copy of Form PTO-1449 be returned in accordance with MPEP §609.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-0471. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a check being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 19-0471.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: December 3, 2001

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